



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

David L. Kaplan, Juliet Fuhrman and Richard A. Gross

Application No.:

09/518,020

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed:

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Examiner:

ARK OFFICE

d A. Gross

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AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a reply to an Office Action Made Final dated January 24, 2003. This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination along with a Petition to Extend the Shortened Statutory period for filing a Notice of Appeal for one month, from April 24, 2003 to May 24, 2003.

On April 29, 2003, Applicants' undersigned Attorney participated in a telephone interview with the Examiner. Applicants and Applicants' Attorney would like to thank the Examiner for granting the interview and for his constructive suggestions. Amendments made to the claims in this reply reflect comments made during the interview.